

(*Washington*) – **Congressman John B. Larson** made the following statement today after President Barack Obama asked Congress to act on a balanced plan that would avoid the upcoming sequester:

"Every member of Congress understands the impact sequestration would have on our nation. Despite a deadline less than a month away, House Republican Leadership continues to show their opposition to any balanced plan that avoids the sequester, and provides stability for our country.

"Today after House Republicans again refused to act on a long-term plan for our economy, President Obama expressed that a short-term balanced package may be needed to avoid sequestration. While we should continue to work towards long-term certainty for Americans, he is right to ask Congress to give our nation breathing room in the following months. The nation will be looking to Congress as sequestration draws closer, and it is my hope that every member, regardless of politics or ideology, acts in the interest of the American people."

###